GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2113
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
INFRASTRUCTURE FOR HORTICULTURE CROP
SUKDEO PASWAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 8.37% of horticulture output is going waste for want of adequate infrastructure for post harvest handling of horticulture crops; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide proper infrastructure to increase the shelf life of the crops?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) Horticulture produce including fruits and vegetables are perishable in nature and as per the Report of the Working Group on Horticulture Development for the Xth Planset up by the Planning Commission, the wastage of these crops ranges from 8-37% at various stages of handling after harvesting due to inadequate post harvest infrastructure including transport and storages.

(b): National Horticulture Board under the Ministry of Agriculture is implementingvarious programmes to reduce post harvest losses of horticulture crops like fruits, vegetables etc. through creation of post harvest infrastructure for increasing the shelf life of these crops. The programmes are
(i) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme forConstruction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce and
(ii) Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and PostHarvest Management. So far, Board has released a sum of Rs.185.17 crores as subsidy for construction/expansion/modernization of cold storages and storages in the country.